The Wellesley Prelude.

VOLUME III.—NO. XXVIII.

CONTENTS.

Editorials,	355
The Future Wellesley Paper,	356
New Departure at Cornell,	358
College Notes, *Frances Lucas*, '93, *Helen R. Stahr*, '94, *Ethel Stanwood*, '94,	358
Book Reviews,	360
Magazines,	361
Exchanges, *Agnes Sinclair Holbrook*, '92,	362
Waban Ripples, *Caroline N. Newman*, '93,	362

APRIL 30, 1892.

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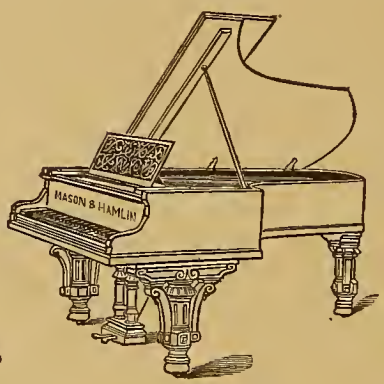

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THE WELLESLEY PRELUDE.

VOL. III. NEWTON, MASS., APRIL 30, 1892. No. 28

The Wellesley Prelude.

Edited by the Students of Wellesley College and published weekly during the college year. Price $2.00 a year. Weekly copies 5 cents. Monthly copies 15 cents.

EDITORS:

BLANCHE B. BAKER, '92.

JANET E. DAVIDSON, '92. AGNES S. HOLBROOK, '92.
HELEN G. EAGER, '93 CAROLINE N. NEWMAN, '93.
HELEN R. STAHR, '94. FRANCES LUCAS, '94.
ETHEL STANWOOD, '94. ANNIE SYBIL MONTAGUE, '79.

MISS CAROLINE MUDGETT, Sp.

All literary communications from the students of the college should be sent to the LITERARY EDITOR OF THE PRELUDE, through the PRELUDE box in the general office. Literary communications from outside the College should be directed to the Alumnæ Editor, Miss Annie Sybil Montague, Wellesley College Wellesley, Mass.

Subscriptions and all business communications should be sent *in all cases*, to Helen Eager, Wellesley College, Wellesley Mass.

Advertisements should be addressed to Mr. Fred W. Walker 74 Tremont street, Room 21, Boston, Mass.

Entered as Second Class Matter at Post Office, Newton, Mass

EDITORIALS.

Special arrangements have been made this year for post-graduate study at Wellesley. The regulations prescribed differ somewhat from those of former years, and greatly add to the facilities for obtaining a Master's degree. This degree will be granted to all graduates of Wellesley, or other colleges of equal rank, who conform to certain prescribed regulations.

One year of work under the direction of a special committee of the Academic Council is required of resident candidates. This work is to represent in time not less than the minimum hours of work prescribed for under-graduates during the Senior year. Non-resident candidates cannot receive the second degree earlier than two years after the first degree was conferred.

The degree of M. A. will be conferred upon such non-resident students only who are graduates of Wellesley. Graduates from other colleges must spend their time of study in Wellesley. At the close of the period of study the candidate must present a thesis or pass a satisfactory examination upon her work.

The full charge for board and tuition will be required of those candidates who reside in the college building. From those who are in residence but are not living in the college buildings no tuition will be required. Non-resident students who are applicants for a second degree will pay a matriculation fee of $10, and a final fee of $25 upon receiving the Master's degree.

Such are the more important requirements prescribed by the Academic Council, and in comparing them with the rules of former years, it will be seen that the conditions for pursuing post-graduate courses are simpler and more favorable than ever before.

One of the minor changes which we shall look for in that future time, when Wellesley realizes in every respect our ideal of what she should be, will be a suitable post office for the College. This fact must force itself upon anyone who is present in the general office after the distribution of the college mail, and who finds herself inextricably entangled in the rush of students after their letters. There is no order nor system observable anywhere. Each

student is in a hurry to procure her own budget of mail, at whatever cost, in the few short moments between recitations, and the result is a state of chaos difficult to describe. Certainly in a community of eight hundred,some more business-like arrangement for distributing mail is desirable. The most convenient course would be to have a post office of our own at the College, where it would be possible to mail our letters and to receive them without the long delay which is now necessary in obtaining them from the office in the village. It is not yet time perhaps to look for such a happy condition of affairs, but some change is necessary. At the least, the mail boxes should be removed from the general office to more commodious quarters, and some method provided by which the students from the cottages might obtain their mail in a more dignified manner than now. This change could be made with but little trouble and expense, and it would do away with much confusion and inconvenience.

In certain colleges, work upon the college paper is allowed to count toward work in the regular Academic course. This measure seems to be a just one. The labor involved in editing a college paper is by no means slight. It means a drain upon the time and strength of the editors which can hardly be realized by one who has not attempted it. At the same time the work and experience is of great benefit to the student undertaking it, and very often in line with some part of her Academic work. Each tends to help along the other. Just how far editorial work should count toward the college work it is hardly our province to state, but that it should take the place of some part of the college requirements seems only right and just.

It is rumored that Dr. Keeley is to start a branch of his gold cure industry in Kentucky. Can the world's gold supply stand such a drain.—Yale Record.

THE FUTURE WELLESLEY PAPER.

What is to be the *raison d'etre* of the Wellesley PRELUDE in the future?

Shall it be to inform the Alumnæ that Miss A. has left college for a brief period on account of trouble with her eyes, and that Miss B. is suffering the consequences of her last tobaggan exploit; or shall it be to stimulate literary endeavors among the students by demanding their best work, and shall it be to represent Wellesley to the "College World" by taking its place among other college publications which have already earned a reputation based on literary merit? Which will bring greater honor to the college; which will the Alumnæ of three, five or ten years standing hold in more respect, and which will serve as the more worthy exponent of Wellesley's best literary work?

Wellesley is standing on perilous ground in the estimation outsiders are forming of her literary abilities, and for this the PRELUDE is responsible, for strangers measure the mental calibre of Wellesley girls by the material therein printed. Once a month the world is permitted to see the best efforts which the editors are able to extract from the students, but three times a month it is shown the same paper, under the same name and management, made up of material acknowledged to be inferior. There are thus three chances to one in favor of the inferior editions falling into the hands of strangers, and of Wellesley being judged accordingly by the most critical people, including students *and* faculty, of the colleges and universities with which we exchange publications.

In the hands of Seniors, girls who have proved by their work in College, and also by at least two accepted articles in the College paper, that they are capable of writing scholarly editorials, and are possessed by keen judg-

ment as to the merit of literary work, Wellesley ought to be able to publish *once a month* a paper which would at least reflect credit on the institution. Since the Editorial Board knows by experience and observation what qualities are essential in the management and conduct of the paper, at least better than the body of students, the editors can be most wisely chosen by its members. Popular elections would give the charge of the paper into the hands of the best known girls, rather than of the most able literary students. The contributions sent in by Juniors and under-classmen, too, would be carefully considered by the Board and given due weight in the elections.

News from Wellesley is dear to the heart of every Wellesley girl, and items of some general interest should form *a* feature, but not *the* feature of each issue. Trivial happenings should have no recognition, and personal mention should be restricted to events of some moment. If the old students are sincere in their affection for their Alma Mater they would surely rather read articles which show that Wellesley is in touch with what is vital to college life and to society, than be gratified for the moment with items of information which they will speedily forget, concerning people whom they often do not even know. If the Alumnæ cannot wait so long as a month for *News*, why not give it into the hands of certain girls to publish a fortnightly or weekly "Budget" containing nothing else, which shall be sent only to the Alumnæ who wish it, and kept utterly distinct from *the* college paper? We might thus be saved from the criticism which we now but too justly endure, of sending to the world a weekly filled with our own personal gossip.

Jeannie Evans.
Henrietta St. Barbe Brooks.

That Wellesley should publish a paper of a more soundly literary character than the PRELUDE has yet proved itself to possess is the opinion of everyone interested in the college publication. That there is literary ability among the students we all believe. That it should be encouraged, and cultivated into breadth, variety, virility, by the stimulus of local publication and criticism, we are thoroughly convinced. And these are no new theories, for we and the long-suffering editorial boards for three years past have believed all these, and yet the flashing union of mind and matter in a brilliant literary periodical has not materialized. For many reasons, doubtless, but on one alone I wish to touch.

Who of us has not encountered, some Friday evening an unhappy editor wildly foraging hall and college for personals, general news, anything gossipy and evanescent wherewith to fill up the required columns of passing events? And how many of us have extracted from said columns amusement or information proportionate to the energy expended in producing them? We sometimes indulge in a smile of satisfied superiority as we read the local news of a country newspaper. But in the accumulation of just such monotonous details the best power of some of our best editors has been spent. It has been a waste of power to the college intellect.

Take these same editors; give them the work of editing a medium sized monthly, or a more bulky quarterly; emphasize in their minds a high literary standard: drop, as not worth the time that must be given to them, personals and locals, reviews of lectures, and accounts of visits; let each editor be responsible for one good article; responsible for its literary style, its diction, phrasing, paragraphing, as well as for its spelling and punctuation and I believe we shall find the result worthier of the effort made, more lasting, more valuable, and more progressive.

Alice M. Stevens, '91.

A NEW DEPARTURE AT CORNELL.

Following the example of some other universities, summer courses will be offered at Cornell this year, its libraries. laboratories, and museums being opened during a part of the summer vacation.

In particular, instruction will be offered in Botany, Chemistry, Mathemetics, Philosophy, Physics, English, French, German, Greek, Latin, Classical Archaeology, and Physical Culture. Among the men who will teach are Professors Hitchcock, Alfred Emerson, Jones, Orndorff, O. F. Emerson, Instructors Rowlee, Creighton, Rappleye, Saunders, Von Klenze, Chamot, Tanner, and Mr. E. D. Wright. The classes will meet early in July and be in session six weeks.

Without excluding others who are qualified to take up the work, these courses are offered for the special benefit of teachers. It is a practical scheme of University extension by which the teachers themselves will be taught under university instructors by university methods with access to university libraries, museums, and laboratories, and that at the only time when they are free from other pressing engagements.

The city of Ithaca, with its lake, its hills, its glens and beautiful cascades, is a delightful place of residence, the cost of living is small, the tuition fees have been fixed at a moderate figure, and there seems no good reason why a very large body of teachers should not come together every year for the purposes of study and mutual improvement,

COLLEGE NOTES.

WEEKLY BULLETIN.

Monday evening, May 2. Concert by Wulf Fries and Ernst Perabo.

Wednesday evening, May 4. 7.30. Lecture by Dr. Samuel W. Dyke, Subject.— Sociology, contents and methods of study.

Sunday, May 8. Preaching by Rev. Henry E. Cook, Manchester, N. H.

Monday evening, May 9. Glee Club Concert.

Wednesday evening, May 11. Kecture by Dr. Samuel W. Dyke. Subject.—The country village.

A telegram was received last Sunday morning stating that Dr. William Ward of the "Independent," who was expected to preach for us was unable to come. Morning service was, therefore, suspended at the College. Many of the girls attended church at Natick, Wellesley Hills and the village.

At a business meeting of the Phi Sigma held on Wednesday evening, April 18, Miss May Wheeler, '94 and Miss Emily Shultz, '94 were initiated into the society.

Miss Bertha Palmer, '91, spent last Saturday at the College.

The boats are launched and prominent among them are the two Freshman crew boats. The crews have begun practicing in them and give fair promise of great success on Float Day. The new boats ordered by the other classes have not yet arrived.

In spite of the unusual dryness of April, the hepaticas, violets and saxifrage have already made their appearance in and about the grounds. The lawns are beautifully green and everything betokens a most beautiful spring.

A number of the members of the class in Political Economy attended the National Reunion of the Working Girls Clubs held in Boston on Wednesday evening, April 18.

On Saturday evening, April 2, the Junior open debate was given in the chapel. The subject for discussion was "The Extinction of the Saloon would do more for Political Reform than All Other Agencies." It was sustained by Miss Grenell and Miss Mann on the affirmative side and Miss Feeny and Miss

Frear on the negative. Miss Mann introduced the subject; showed the evil influence of the saloon to be two-fold, first on the individual composing the body politic, and second through organization: traced the history of the saloon machine, and brought out the connection between the saloon and other great evils. Miss Frear showed that the suppression of the saloon, without social and moral reform would not touch the real root of the evil which lies in man's moral nature, and would eliminate only one factor of political corruption, leaving all others free to act as banefully as before. In place of saloon extinction she favored the reform of Civil Service, of the Naturalization laws, of the Ballot and Corrupt Practise Act. Miss Grenell argued that the greatest step towards reform would be removing the greatest evil and gave her reasons for believing the saloon to be our worst political enemy. Miss Feeny brought forward statistics to prove that the vice of alchoholism would give place to opium-eating and showed that then the saloon machine would be superceded by as powerful a one, a machine of opium dens.

After the debate there was an animated open discussion. Miss Hazard, Miss Laughlin, Miss Emerson and Miss Palmer speaking on the affirmative side and Miss Eager, Miss McAlgarney and Miss Angell on the negative. Miss Thompson spoke of the work of woman as a reforming-factor in Wyoming, and Miss Bixby showed that in California where immigration is not a strong political factor, the need for political reform is not lessened. Both sides were well sustained throughout, and though at the start the weight of public opinion seemed to favor the affirmative side, when the audience adjourned the balance hung a little heavier, perhaps, on the negative side.

On Monday evening, April 26th, Mr. Locke Richardson read *King Lear* in the College chapel. There was a large audience present who fully appreciated the fact that Mr. Richardson in rendering a chorus of unrelieved tragedy had undertaken a difficult task. But everyone soon realized that the man was master of his art: and although, as our critic has said, "Lear in a dress coat comes very close to being ridiculous," Mr. Richardson was able to make all forget external incongruities in the wonderful manner in which he threw himself into the character, now of Lear the passionate and impetuous father, now of the haughty, contemptuous daughters and again of the half melancholy, half playful fool. His Cordelia, some thought, was rather weak and touched on the effeminate: but when one man attempts to take the part of each and all of the dramatis personal of one of Shakespeare's tragedies, it is not strange if his rendering of some one character calls forth adverse criticism. The scene between Lear and the fool, were by his pointed words and bitter-sweet songs the latter frankly tells the King what he thinks of the former's recent conduct, was very enjoyable, and in the last scene where Lear mourns over the dead body of Cordelia, Mr. Richardson rendered perfectly the passionate love and anguish of the noble old King. Indeed throughout his interpretation of character was deep and scholarly, and the audience felt how truly it come from the heart. Mr. Richardson has recently completed a tour of four years around the globe, and everywhere his Shakespeare recitals have won the highest praise.

Two enterprising Stone Hall Seniors walked to Boston on last Monday in four hours and a half.

A series of lectures has been arranged for Wednesday evenings in May that promises to be of special interest. Dr. Samuel W. Dyke of the Divoice Reform League has kindly undertaken to discuss sociology in relation to woman's work. The order of subjects is as follows:—Sociology, content and methods of study, May 4: The country village, May 11; Modern social problems, May 18: The family

as a social problem, May 25. Dr. Dyke aims to reveal the great issues involved in the apparently commonplace life of our country towns and villages. The lectures will have special value for all who propose to teach.

BOOK NOTICES.

Sulamith. A metrical romance, by Samuel McClurg Osmond, D. D., Published by The Jas. B. Rodgers Printing Company, Philadelphia. This poem, taking the *Song of Songs* for its basis, weaves into the life of Solomon a love story of exquisite purity and tenderness. By a happy combination the author has made Solomon's love for *Sulamith*, his "rose of Sharon," his "sister bride," not only a spur to his noblest conduct, but the very embodiment of his devotion to righteousness. His wisdom and greatness grow in proportion to his vision of her unexhausted sweetness and unfathomed depths, and his decline is foreshadowed in the period during which he owns

"To him she brought a nameless pain,
A sense of something higher, holier
In her than aught to which he could attain."

From this time until "the monarch's words rang hollow in the ears of Sulamith," and, losing her, he yields to the desperate conviction that "All is Vanity," Solomon's baser part triumphs gradually over his ideal beloved and his nobler self. Only in his old age does

"Israel's reanointed king,
Heaven-taught, from all his treasured memories bring,
Such as were worthy,"

and write his Song,

"A pastoral poem and yet a prophecy
Of love's great King and kingdom that should be,
And day of His espousals which imparts
Its everlasting joy to yearning hearts."

Aside from the story itself, which is carefully handled and well told, the reader finds pleasure in the songs scattered through the book. The flowing rythm and melodious line remind one more of Edwin Arnold than any other poet, and this resemblance is increased by the oriental setting of the story. *Sulamith's Dream*, which is perhaps the most delicately fanciful of any of the songs, is in every way worthy the great poem from which it draws its inspiration, while the picture of *Night* is perhaps the best touch of the author's own.

The volume is tastefully bound, and contains a well engraved medallion-head of the oriental heroine, Sulamith. Artistic designs heading each chapter contribute to make a finished and suitable gift-book. It may be obtained from the publishers, Nos. 52 and 54 North Sixth street, Philadelphia, or through the PRELUDE.

Soll und Haben. (Debit and Credit.) A novel by Gustar Freytag, translated by Ida W. Bultmann, published by Ginn & Co., Boston. One of the best modern novels is brought within reach of the American student of moderate advancement by this condensed and popularized edition of *Soll und Haben.* The high literary merit of the book fits it for college use, and the contrasted pictures of life in the aristocratic and bourgeois classes of German society give the American reader excellent ideas of foreign life and manners. The text is carefully annotated.

A German Science Reader, by J. Howard Gove. One of Heath's Modern Language Series, Boston. To meet the wants of the scientific student, ambitious to carry on his work in German without spending years acquiring the language by means of the classic dramas, and then learning a vocabulary of scientific terms, this book has been prepared. It contains selections translated from Huxley, articles quoted from Weismann, and short portions of actual publications of scientists. The vocabulary gives scientific terms chiefly, and terms found in the text not in common use.

Unfortunately the book has no index or table of contents, but otherwise it recommends itself to the use of the scientific reader.

Selections from Goethe's Poetical and Prose Works, by Wilhelm Bernhardt. (Price $1.60.) It is intended to give opportunity for a taste of Goethe's various dramas, letters and other works in this excellent collection of choice passages. Epic, lyric and dramatic poetry appears, and the prose includes history, biography and travels. Almost all of "*Hermann and Dorothea*" is given, and the few parts omitted from the first of "*Faust*" and "*The Sorrows of Werther*" are partially replaced by explanatory notes. The idea that the student may gain a better knowledge of Goethe by thus having a glimpse of his various works, than by reading one or two complete dramas, is evidently in the mind of the editor. Certainly one who wishes to know something of Goethe's genius, without giving years to the perusal of his complete works, will do well to possess these selections. The book is printed in German type, and although it is clearly done, the notes in finer print are very trying to the eyes. Latin letters would make the book desirable for class room work.

MAGAZINES.

In *The Forum* for April, Philip Gilbert Hamerton discourses on *The Teaching of Languages*. Two ideas are responsible for the high position held by languages in modern education. First, the idea that a man or woman is not cultured unless a linguist: second, the idea that no literature can be appreciated in translations. Three grades may be distinguished in the study of languages; scholarship, assimilation, mastery. The first gives our philology, but not literature. One cannot have one mind on the grammar and at the same time grasp the author's thought. Whether scholarship is fit for anything better than to amuse the curious or occupy the idle is a question. Assimilation means more. An assimilated language has grown into the student's life; he thinks it, writes it involuntarily, uses it even when angry or excited: he dreams in it. Mastery means so much that it is almost idle to talk of mastery even of one's native tongue. It is to use language without halt, without flaw, so that compared with ordinary speech, it is a language of the gods—perfect in accuracy, beauty and fitness, an aid, not a hindrance, to the thought of the speaker. *The Gentleman's Magazine* has an article on *Paul Bourget* by Garnet Smith, which brings out not only the characteristics of the writer, "the melancholy student of this strange age," but also of the "strange age" in which we live. Cosmopolitanism is rapidly doing away with prejudices and national narrownesses, and when these are gone the age of decadence will have set in. As we give ourselves up to wandering over the earth, and find no place to rest content, so Bourget wanders among the passions of life, and finds satisfaction in none. But though we may blame him that he has no answers to give to the questions he raises, we must recognize that he believes in the triumph of good just because he paints the workings of evil. His doctrine tells us that because there is so much sin and suffering in the world, we must know and avoid it, doing what we can to antidote, if we cannot absolutely annihilate vice.

The Fortnightly Review contains the conclusion of W. H. Mallock's story *A Human Document*. It is a record of the love of two people who could not find transgression of the law of man to be transgression of the law of God. The diaries of the two furnish material for the account of their experiences, and but little attempt has been made to throw the record into the form of a story. In spite of the minute introspection, the nice distinctions made by conscience and carefully elabor-

ated, in spite of crudeness in some places and prolixity in others, we pursue the chapter of life to the end—perhaps because it is life, "and life they say, is worthy of the Muse."

EXCHANGES.

The five monthly papers which reach our table this week are just passing from the hands of the '92 editors into the keeping of the board for next year. In general the new editors take up their work with vigor, and each paper has something of special interest. Wellesley students who are considering the formation of a literary monthly magazine should examine the reputable publications of other colleges with care. The *Yale* and *Amherst Lits*, the *Brown Magazine* and *Nassau Lit.* of Princeton are published by editors chosen from the Senior Class by the Editorial Board. The *Dartmouth Literary* takes its editors from the Senior and Junior classes and asks some member of the faculty to act with the Board in elections. The *Harvard Monthly*, the best paper published in the college world, has men from the Law and other schools as well as from the upper class men. The best monthly published in a woman's college, *The Vassar Miscellany*, takes its editors from the three upper classes, while the annual literary of Bryn Mawr, *The Lantern*, is published by the Senior class. Incoming editors are, so far as we can find, elected always by the Editorial Board and with the exception of Dartmouth above quoted, the Board acts without aid from without.

WABAN RIPPLES.

A small boy was being instructed in fractions. His teacher said, "Now, Frank, if the cook should cut in two a piece of steak, what would the two parts be called?"

"Halves," he replied promptly.

The teacher continued asking the names of pieces obtained by repeated subdivision and finally said, "What would she have if she cut the sixteenths in two?"

"Hash," was the decided answer.

A student in Physics taking the course in woodwork was heard inquiring for the rippling-saw.

House-matron (to student who wishes to have a guest for tea.) Is he your father?

Student (fidgeting.) No.

House-matron. Is he your brother?

Student. No.

House-matron. Is he related to you in any way.

Student. Oh—ah—, he is a relation by marriage.

Freshman (with enthusiasm) Have you heard the news?

Roommate (wildly excited.) No! What is it? Tell me quickly!

Freshman. Why, I don't know: I've been going about all morning trying to find some.

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Arrange tastefully and serve on small plates.

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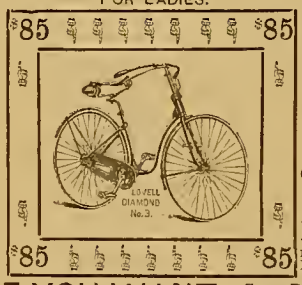

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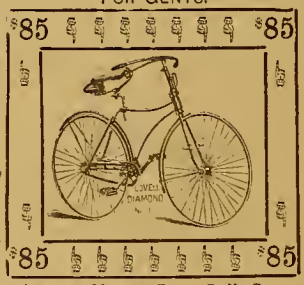

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